SUFFRAGISTS WINNING SUPPORT OF CHURCH LEADERS

Views of Ministers of Many Denominations Collected by the Empire State Campaign Committee Show Wide Unanimity in Favor of Votes for Women

Churchmen of all denominations are "coming out" for suffrage. Not only are they espousing the cause but many of them are working for it with missionary zeal. Especially has the last year been marked by an access of interest in the subject in church circles. Church pulpits all over the country are freely lent to

suffragists for the presentation of the suffrage cause and preacher after preacher is declaring his suffrage faith. Many church conferences held this spring have adopted resolutions favoring woman suffrage. The Empire State Campaign Committee has prepared the following account of progress in this direction.

Attitude of the Baptists.

HE Baptist conference, which is to meet to-morrow in the Madison Avenue Baptist Church corner Thirty-first street, will hear the cause of woman suffrage discussed upon its floor. After the opening exercises Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw, Manhattan chairman of the Woman Suffrage Party, will speak, by special request, for a half hour, presenting the case for women's votes. After this the conference will be thrown open to a general discussion, which will in all probability occupy most of the morning session.

portance to every male citizen in New and nations adopting it; therefore, York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Laidlaw to make use of the opportu- solidly lined up in its favor.' nity furnished by a gathering of many the question of votes for women.

the church where the conference is to Troy Conference of the Methodist Dr. Charles A. Eaton, the pastor of be held, has been a believer in the abstract justice of woman suffrage for twenty years. When he was asked for his views on the subject he gave them readily, saying that he had hitherto taken little active part in the movement. His faith in the inevitability of woman's participation has mede him see it as a part of evolutionary democracy, he said, and he had felt that the cause would grow of its own momentum without his active help. Then he amplified the same democratic ideal

"The key to human progress is the word democracy. Political power has broadened through the centuries until now in the most advanced countries have to-day practical manhood of nations; therefore be it suffrage. It is my firm conviction that but are going to have the vote in the of this year."

partment of social service and brother-passed at the Central Methodist con-bood of the Baptist Publication So-ference at Shamokin, Pa., and at est in the women's vote, is Dr. Henry clety, the author of "The Christian Norristown, Pa., on the same date. State" and several books upon Chris-Empire State Campaign Committee: the ballot and have spoken on this subject before Legislatures and to the people. I have never heard a real eason why women should not have the ballot equally with men. Every argument against woman suffrage applies equally against male suffrage. believe that woman is fully as

rational as man, and hence is as capaole of having intelligent convictions with respect to men and measures, 'I believe that women will give more sympathetic study to political and social questions than men and hence will bring more intelligence to bear upon these questions.

"I believe that women are more fully guided by large moral considerations than men and hence will greatly reenforce the struggle for social justice and progress.

the ballot the interests of women and children, the care of the weak and defenceless, receive more considera-

'I believe in democracy—that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governedand therefore to be consistent I must believe in woman suffrage.

"I find every saloon keeper, every white slaver, every political groundling, every special interest against woman suffrage; and hence as one who believes in temperance, purity, honesty and progress. I have no difficulty in finding myself with the friends of woman suffrage."

The Federal Council.

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America is an association concerned with the common interests of thirty different denominations. Its work comprises: Committees on peace and arbitration, on church and social work, on education, temperance, and the like. Its general secretary, the Rev. Charles S. Macfarland, who was a delegate to the International Peace Conference in Europe last summer, had this to say to the Empire State campaign committee concerning his faith in woman

"I believe that the right of suffrage mental right, the denial of which invades the realm of personality. I should interpret in the generic sense the commonly repeated phrase that

'all men are born free and equal.'

moral point of view, there are at least many matters affecting the body politic upon which women generally have a higher and more discriminating sense, especially with relation to womanhood and childhood and the social sins committed against womanhood and childhood,

"On the ground of experience in but rather, in many matters, of far greater service.

"Most of the arguments against the mittee: right of suffrage for woman are based upon alleged experience, in connection with which, because of their political limitations, women have not had an opportunity to give any indication of upon questions of social welfare."

Methodists and Suffrage.

The head of the National American Woman Suffrage Association is a minister in the Methodist Church,

What Methodists think of woman of the New York East Methodist Episcopal Conference in session at the Bushwick Central Church of Brooklyn on April 8. Dr. Bartholow presented a resolution in favor of ballots for frage to women. I am convinced that women, which was adopted. It reads as follows:

"Believing that equal suffrage is in the logic of the democracy to which of helping to shape and enforce these Baptist clergymen are seeking in-our nation stands committed, and that formation upon this question, since it it would benefit woman and the State, has now become one of practical im- as it is demonstrated by the States

"Resolved, That we, members of the Pennsylvania. Some time between New York East Conference, are in Eastern States will be much more pronow and next November, they say, a favor of the extension of the suffrage nounced Such legislation is even more personal decision as to its righteous- to all sane, law abiding citizens of ness and expediency must be made by both sexes, and hope that in the Noevery voter in these States. For this vember elections the proposed amendreason the initiative was taken by the ment to the New York Constitution clergymen themselves in inviting Mrs. will find the hosts of Methodism

This was signed by Dr. Bartholow, men in one place at one time to state Supt. Elmer E. Dent, Dr. Willard L. Robinson and Dr. Charles W. Flint. On April 10, at Saratoga, N. Y., the Church passed a similar resolution

favoring the extension of the franchise "to all good citizens, irrespective of sex," in national and municipal affairs. At Philadelphia on March 28, 1915. woman suffrage was indorsed by the Methodists in the following resolution:

"Whereas woman suffrage is essential to the development of democracy, with its recognition of the sacredness of human life and human rights; and "Whereas it is inevitable that women should be included in the term 'people' to work together with men in

government by the people; and "Whereas mothers, wives and sisters, sharing in the responsibilities and perils of civilization, ought not to be deprived of a voice in the councils

"Resolved, That we affirm our belief this process will go on as resistlessly in the principle of political equality as a glacial advance until every man and our faith in the patriotic devotion and every woman in the civilized and aspirations of the women of our world has the vote. In other words, State, and that we recommend that seif-government is the key to the future, and it will be impossible to cure the passage of the amendment to deny the right of self-government to the State Constitution enfranchising any morally responsible human being. women, which has been passed by the For these reasons I believe that two successive Legislatures and which women not only should have the vote, comes before the voters in November

This resolution was unanimously whole people. Dr. Samuel Zane Batten of the de- adopted and a similar resolution was

The New Jersey conference of Meth- Presbyterian Church. tian sociology, says in a letter to the odists, holding its seventy-ninth conference at Atlantic City early in in woman suffrage, another Presby-For years I have believed that March, indorsed woman suffrage and should have the privilege of promised its hearty and active support chairman of the American Parish, New

On March 30 the Newark conference of Methodists, Bishop Henderson presiding, pledged its support to the cause am sure that in the long run the peoof woman suffrage. The Rev. Charles Kemble presented a resolution, which

"Realizing the essential equity of the movement as the natural next de- same reason as men, and while their velopment of democracy and believing votes will not bring in the millennium that the intelligent Christian and temperance vote will thereby be relatively

"Resolved, That we heartily favor the proposed extension of the suffrage to include all sane, law abiding citizens of both sexes and hope that in the September elections the proposed to this effect will find the host of favor as the hosts of evil are sure to isfactory. be lined up in opposition."

be found in Pennsylvania and New at a meeting for suffrage held on March 16, 1915, in Calvary Methodist W. H. Morgan, said these words:

"Since a republic depends on the intelligence of its citizens it must not intelligent citizens-the women. Since the final appeal for justice in a democracy rests on the ballot box we cannot longer deny to the millions of women in industry the right to that

Following is a letter sent to the Empire State Campaign Committee who has recently come to New York from Schenectady to take the pastorate of St. Andrew's Methodist Epis-

copal Church: "I am most heartily in sympathy with the movement for equal suffrage in this State and in the nation. Equal suffrage means not merely the right of women to vote but the larger freedom of the State. The suffrage movement is to me one of the few great in dications that we are witnessing the 'kingdom of God at hand' in a new and wonderful manner. Count upon me as ready at all times to do what I can to promote this agency for the king-

The Rev. Arthur Jamieson of the Park Avenue Methodist Episcopal "I am entirely convinced also that Church declares that he is "in most from a practical point of view suffrage hearty sympathy with the movement should be equal and that women have which seeks to give women the right as much wisdom and common sense to register at the polls their opinion as men. If any lines were to be drawn on civic and national affairs. I can-

were not, these lines should not be vote. The arguments against it do drawn, and would not be drawn, by not appear to me to have sufficient ground in reason. We have no right "Looking at the matter from a to refuse a demand so well founded in

Favored by Presbyterians.

In the Presbyterian Church, where women have voted in parish meeting for generations, there are many leading clergymen who indorse woman suffrage, one of whom, Dr. Charles S. activities for the improvement of human society, I do not find that Dr. William Pierson Merrill of the Brick Presbyterian Church, Fifth avenue and Thirty-seventh street, writes to the Empire State Campaign Com-

"Of course I shall be glad to have you use my letter, or any part of it, in any way you like. I should prefer to have you say that I believe in the extension of suffrage to women as a the value of their services in deciding matter of general policy and of justice. and, on the whole, believe it would be beneficial."

> Dr. J. E. McAfee of the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions voices his conviction of the value of equal suffrage as follows:

"I cannot in this matter speak for any of the religious bodies with which suffrage is indicated by the action I am officially connected, and must not be understood as doing so. As citizen, however, I am prepared to and will support the movement for a conmuch legislation greatly needed in the struggle for social betterment will result from giving the women their right laws. The suffrage has enabled the women of progressive Western States to advance the social legislation which has distinguished them. I think the effect of woman suffrage in the older needful in these States. A large proportion of the women are already informed and are committed to social reform. I believe their votes will give balance to our laws and make them





Rev Fred Winslow Adams, D.D., Pastor St. Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church

express more genuinely the will of the

Another Presbyterian clergyman. Sloane Coffin of the Madison Avenue

Out of many reasons for his belief York city, takes these as most con-

"First-I believe in democracy and ple have to say who shall represent them and govern them. All plans for 'virtual representation' have broken down. Women need the vote for the in New York, or any other State, it is good for the State that their opinions should find expression. seems to me especially important in view of the fact that so many women have to work for their living. weapons to secure justice and fair play amendment to our State Constitution for the workers, and there is no justice in denying that weapon to the Methodists as solidly lined up in its very workers whose lot is most unsat-

"Second-I believe in woman suf Not all Methodist suffragists are to frage because I am more interested in Jersey. It is interesting to note that old days the prudent housewife might with her own eyes assure herself that Church-the largest Methodist church or their clothes shoddy. In our commakers, need to add their voice and sound principles." vote directly to that of the men for what I had said about the physical side of home life in such matters as food and clothing applies more to those questions of education and morality which so vitally concern the boys and

"It seems to me very important that the suffrage be granted by constitutional amendment at once in order that the energy now employed in seekrect public service for all. The struggle of earnest minded women for the vote is only a struggle to forge a weapon. That weapon has still to be used to further social justice, and it is a pity to have it too long in the

Catholics and Suffrage.

"The statement that the Church is Gibbons in his utterance concerning matter to the good judgment of her the women. children as to what they think best."

Shaw, to vote in order to help "make California a model State and hand down tion of drink is terrible. I am not to their children a tradition of right- a teetotaller nor a prohibitionist, but eousness and of unselfish patriotism." I was staggered when I read that two Then there is the Right Rev. Paul thousand millions of dollars was the

Dr.

Anna

Howard

homes even than in the State. In the P. Rhode, Auxiliary Bishop of Chi- drink bill of the United States in 1913. cago, who told the Chicago Catholic When I saw that one statement I women officially not only to vote but succumbed to the cause of suffrage. her family's food was not adulterated "to let no other motive actuate them when entering the polling place than I argued that another force was necesof New York city—the pastor, the Rev. plicated modern life only the State the welfare of the State, the good of sary to change the situation Natcan do that effectively for us, and society, and above all the protection urally I turned to the women because women, who are the natural home of the family life of the nation and of they are the greatest sufferers in the

> The Rev. Joseph H. McMahon, late rector of the Church of Our Lady of be the honor, privilege and the de-Lourdes, New York, said to the men light of the women to settle all these of this city: "To say that the exer- questions. It sounds like a dream. cise of the right to vote will mean probably, but it will come true with that a woman must neglect her home duties is to utter a smug commonplace that shows how little given to favor of woman suffrage on the plat-reflection we are. • • Purify your form of the Brooklyn Academy of social life, but do not be guilty of the Music, declared: "I have voted for stupidity of saying that the exercise thirty years, but very often I have of the right to vote would degrade felt like going home when I saw men any virtuous woman in the world. As at the polls who knew no more about long as you send your daughters out casting their ballot than about reguinto the busy market place with all lating the interior of the sun. If the its dangers and expect them to escape average woman is not better fitted to the pitfalls which are, alas, too common, please do not commit intellectual suicide by declaring that they cannot will go back and sit down. I believe vote because their modesty or reserve might suffer."

opposed to the enfranchisement of Talbot Smith, has announced himself women is incorrect," says Cardinal as an advocate of woman suffrage. In an address before the Warburton

Among Catholic dignitaries who have win," he said, "because the Almighty tion be disfrachised for five years." used their judgment in favor of has taken up the cause and because in

the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America her right to complete development, the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends records its indersement of equal suffrage as a principle of justice to woman and an opportunity for more effective ser-

Rev Charles S Macfarland.

that Monthly Meetings be watchful opportunities to influence equal suffrage legislation and encourage its members to an active interest in the accomplishment of this reform. The six other Yearly Meetings of

"There is no argument against equal

ome conservers."

Liberal Branch of the Society of Friends-New York, Baltimore, Genesce, Ohio, Indiana and Illinoisthough they have not formally adopted this minute, are in full harmony with the sentiments therein expressed.

Among the Unitarians.

National

Suffrage

Association

"Their failure as regards the ques-

drink question.

the help of Providence."

see about the polling places then I

evils which they will not brook."

that if woman suffrage becomes a reality there will be a better chance confession of faith: for the development of woman, home and State. The following letter from a prominent elegyman recently rea prominent clergyman recently re- the merits of the issue. It has creived at the Empire State Campaign's headquarters voices this idea "I am a strong believer in woman problems, long tabooed, is possible

suffrage because I am convinced that the development of woman, the development of the home, and particularly he development of the State, render this next step imperatively necessary and therefore inevitable." "The men had failed absolutely and

Two of the most prominent women preachers the Unitarian church ever ad, the Rev. Anna Safford, now of Florida, and Marte Jenney Howe of New York city, are both leaders in "In the next century I feel it will the suffrage movement.

Women and the War.

Dr. James H. Ecob of the American Institute of Social Service finds in woman suffrage hope for universal "It is constantly affirmed that f the people could have voted on the question of war we would not now find the world in such a conflagration. In that statement we have in mind as usual, the men voters of the various

"It is an open question whether the men would have voted against war. cast her vote than the ordinary man the part which men are accustomed with accepted ideas of government and to play in national life that it is comparatively easy to carry his mind by that next November women are going appeals to patriotism and high soundto obtain the privilege they seek. I ing talk of heroism and national honor The pastor of the Sacred Heart believe that if they do acquire it they and flaming pictures of great armies Church at Dobbs Ferry, the Rev. John will exercise the right not merely well and invincible fleets. Men have from but nobly, and that there are certain the beginning claimed fighting as their At the Catholic prohibition confer- ages have been accustomed to think normal right and duty. Women for roman suffrage on March 27, 1914. Suffrage Club of Yonkers Father ence organized August 5, 1914, at of the other side of war—the loneli-"The Church has taken no official at- Smith said that he believed the sal- Niagara Falls this unique plank was ness and desolation at home; the retitude on the subject, but leaves the vation of this country depends upon inserted in the platform there adopted: turn of the wounded and enfeebled; "Equal suffrage, with the provision the fateful message of the death of selves because of recent indications a skimmer, place i "The cause of suffrage is bound to that all persons convicted of intoxica- those who have made life worth while, that they form the only "class" of crisp, thin, "light

woman suffrage openly are Arch- the most essential parts of govern- started in 1914 calls itself the St. vote. Their native instincts, their im- suffrage movement. He says if this islied with springs of those who were morally not see on what ground we can refuse bishop Patrick Riordan of San Fran- ment to-day the men have utterly and Catherine of Serve all cooked

began fighting the prejudices against diplomatic subtleties, their finer sen-women in the fourteenth century, says sitivity to physical injury, their differthis club, which also declares that in ent concept of the value of life, their a Catholic woman, Margaret higher moral standard as to human 'rightequaness and justice.' Hence he Brent of Maryland, was the "first rights, all determine beforehand how cannot make the compromises that they must vote if a question of peace others make. Believing in justice, the

ing Cause---Wide Variety of Reasons as Basis for

Father Malloy, who is visiting or war were submitted to them. "To secure a true national verdict for justice, even at the risk of u America from New Zealand, in speak-ing of equal suffrage conditions in his for peace in this country we must popularity. Woman suffrage is only country says that the nuns of New enfranchise that half of our citizens one way to restore political justice in Zealand convents vote, and they are who are, by ages of training and by surely not considered unfeminine and the deeper instincts of their constiunladylike. They do not neglect their tution, lovers of peace." grayers or their schools or their char-

Protestant Episcopal Views.

T. Manning of Trinity Parish, New to have a voice in determining how York, "why the Church should be de-nied this larger participation of its "From a purely practical point of nied this larger participation of its suffrage," according to Dr. J. Elliot faithful women."

The occasion for his comment was the 131st annual convention of the purview of government which women York city, on December 12, 1914, when with hardly a dissenting vote morals specifically, can be tackled and to votes for men, you get only incon-To these opinions may be added the the resolution that women be per- conquered by the women because they mitted to vote at parish meetings have not been so hardened in the testimony from experience of Archwas passed. bishop Redwood of Wellington, New

"I hope this resolution will prevail." continued Dr. Manning. "There is nothing dangerous in the proposition. they use it wisely and judiciously, and There is nothing radical in it. New into politics. That coarse corruption for the greatest common good; and. York finds itself in the unusual position in this case of being behind the of vice will be removed. Refinemen times. I favor this resolution, not and purity will take their place and "It is quite plain," says the Rev. only in the interests of women, but a much higher tone and a loftic George Searle of San Francisco, Cal., also for the credit of New York."

that with regard to moral questions Upon the larger issue of woman's cheap talk about the desertion of the interests of morality would be advote in civil affairs some of the the home if women get the bal-vanced by woman suffrage."

Episcopal clergymen of New York lot is inane. Voting takes place city are not slow to see that New York at such long intervals that the is also behind the times and needs home will not suffer at all. Some woman suffrage, "not only in the in- women who have no pressing domes. terests of women, but also for the tic duties will probably become lead

brief expression of belief in woman erage women will later indorse b suffrage was stated in the most prac- their vote. True democracy demand

results to the home, the meeting and we clergymen of the Episcopal Church propose to vote for it." This statement is signed by Dr. John G. Bacchus, rector emeritus of the Church of the Incarnation, Brooklyn; Dr. Frederic W. Norris, rector of St. Matthew's, Brooklyn; Dr. Robert Rogers, rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brooklyn; Dr. Spencer S. Roche, canon of the Cathedral of the Incarnation at Garden City, and Mr. Bartlett of Christ Church Chapel, Red Hook.

At a recent meeting of the Public Forum of the Church of the Ascension. Dr. Percy Stickney Grant, rector, the following resolution, proposed Thomas I. Chadbourne, Jr., was adopted:

Be it resolved that the Public Forum favors granting the franchise to women in the State of New York. "Be it further resolved that as a body this Forum urges each of its members who favors woman suffrage to urge and aid the cause in their respective election districts at the

ming election." The following letter has been received by the Empire State Campaign Committee from one of its best campaign workers, Dr. Arthur Hunt, proessor of ethics in the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, Chelsea Square, New York: 'As you probably know, I am on

the Executive Committee of the Chel- No-for yourselves alone, I turn sea District and am doing what I can in a practical way to further the cause

The pages of intolerance over. That, in their spirit, dark and stern. of equal suffrage, especially with a view to the coming election. So of To silence freedom's voice of warm ourse I am glad to be put on record | And from your precincts worker for votes for women.

and convincing statements another That forth, a cause. The same reasons which justify my own use of the ballot seem to apply with equal force. apply with equal force to the moral right of the vast majority of women Whose slumbering millions, at the sight and as for the practical expediency of extending to them the legal right When for the eighing of the por it seems to me that both from the point of view of experience and from that of the current situation there. And chains are breaking, and a distance that of the current situation there. is good reason to believe that we are in peculiar need of just the forces which such an extension of the ballot would bring into the fleid at this

From Dr. Howard Melish of the What marvel that, in many a Some Unitarian clergymen believe Church of the Holy Trinity, 157 Mon-Church of the Holy Trinity, 157 Mon-tague street, Brooklyn, comes this Are closely with your own co-

> cussion of serious social and moral and worth while. Women in large numbers are now aroused to the significance of the community, and are educating themselves to take an intelligent part in its affairs. The moral have been reenforced tremendously by the aroused interest of womankin if such good is a by-product of the business centre rivalled those movement for the suffrage we have a

> from the use by women of the suf-The rector of St. Mary's Church, the among the shouters, but no or Rev. J. Clarence Jones, is for votes for women because the State needs women's votes. He says:
>
> body participated in the ma Next day. "in deference to voters," the Sabbath was still be says:

right to expect greater good to come

"The law of democracy which has served by all the candid brought about the enfranchisement of Mayor. men is now about to thrust the ballot into the hands of women. The conresponsibility of voting upon all male tizens now place the same respon-ibility upon women whether they all A poach an egg! tizens now place the same responwelcome it or not. One of the funda- little care, mental doctrines of democracy is that | There is a small tin a of individual responsibility. In the vice for the purpose, he final reckening this can be avoided by six eggs. For possible none, whatever their sex may be. The eggs must be strictly t State needs and must now have the water boiling in an age votes of women in the settlement of enough to cover the eggs. many questions affecting the home, a teaspoonful of sait and education, temperance, &c. patriotic call to the heart of Ameri- ine at a time, is a

The Jews and Suffrage.

lay a too flattering unction upon them- are not), lift each each A Catholic votes for women club how the women of all nations would stirted encouragement to the women and sait, serve on a chation for the Vote. St. Catherine indifference to legal technicalities and surprise it is certainly a sorry com- possible before they be

Indorsement---Purely Practical Side Emphazied "The minister stands primarily for

minister must not hesitate to stand our democracy. A democracy means a as much a constituent part of people as are the men. In real de mocracy the government derives it power from the consent of the gov "I see no reason," said Dr. William erned. It is plain that women ought

many problems that come within the Diocese of New York, held at the Ca- than men by virtue of their peculiar thedral of St. John the Divine, New gifts along certain lines. The prob lems of housing, of sanitation practical hurly-burly of life and because their vision is still illumined by sentiment that makes intuitive!

"Women will inject a moral element spirit will soon be manifest. The ers and devote more time to promul On April 26, 1915, the following gating the principles which the avequal suffrage.

The World Moves.

In a pastoral letter of "the Gen-Association of Massachusetts (Orthodox) to the Churches under their care," 1837, the writer, Dr. Nehemiah Adams of Boston, said:

"We appreciate the unostentatious prayers and efforts of woman in advancing the cause of religion at home and abroad; in Sabbath schools: it leading religious inquirers to the pas tors for instruction; and in all such associated effort as becomes the modesty of her sex; and earnestly hopin these labors of plety and love

"If the vine, whose strength and beauty is to lean upon the trelliswork and half conceal its clusters, thinks to assume the independence and the overshadowing nature of the elin. will not only cease to bear fruit, but fall shame and dishonor into the dua We cannot, therefore, but regret the mistaken conduct of those who encourage females to bear an obtrust and ostentatious part in measures of reform, and countenance any of the sex who so far forget themselves as to itinerate in the character of pub

lic lecturers and teachers." This letter so roused the ire of John Greenleaf Whittier that he wrote a poem from which the following stanzas are taken:

"At this late day you will hardly If when an earthquake voice of power showing

In glory and in strength are wa

Politicians Aid Cause A noteworthy telegram fr is spring called attention fell upon all political activiti Sunday preceding the April In the Saturday night proceparalyzed by paraders, who the streets. There were many Next day, "in deference to

ART OF POACHING AN EGG

It is a one quart of water; bree eggs at a time; keep Rabbi Nathan Krass is not willing "set," which will be in